

THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

Christmas on Aruba then and now, veteran visitors recall and approve



Three generations of family from Medellin

ORANJESTAD -- Visitors from Medellin, Colombia may not be escaping harrowing weather and freezing temperatures while spending the holiday on Aruba, but for three families from the bustling Latin American city, the island is still their optimal

choice for enjoying the season with their extensive brood.

Issac and Beatrice Herskovich, Tulio and Rebecca Rabinovich and Arturo and Susan Yanovich, all close friends for decades, have made Aruba their destination at holiday time for the last 36

years. They all invested in two weeks at the Aruba Beach Club, and they, their children and their children's children, can't imagine any other way to welcome the new year.

Continued on pg 2

US judge rules NSA phone surveillance lawful

NEW YORK (AFP) - A US judge ruled Friday that the National Security Agency's mass surveillance of telephone calls is lawful, fanning a legal conflict likely to be decided ultimately by the Supreme Court.

Federal judge William Pauley in New York threw out a petition from the American Civil Liberties Union and said the program was vital in preventing an Al-Qaeda terror attack on Amer-

ican soil.

Ten days earlier, however, another federal judge in Washington had deemed that NSA surveillance is probably unconstitutional, laying the groundwork for a protracted series of legal challenges.

"The question for this court is whether the government's bulk telephony metadata program is lawful.

This court finds it is," said the 54-page ruling published in New York on Friday.

The scale by which NSA indiscriminately gathers data on millions of private calls was exposed by intelligence whistleblower Edward Snowden, sparking an international and domestic outcry.

Protected by judicial checks and executive and congressional oversight, Pauley said the program does not violate the US Constitution's fourth amendment right against unreasonable searches and seizures.

"There is no evidence that the government has used any of the bulk telephony metadata it collected for any purpose other than investigating and disrupting terrorist attacks," he wrote.

Continued on pg 6

Renaissance Convention Center is 'ringing in' the New Years' in style!

Dinner and Dance party with NBO



ORANJESTAD -- Be part of the Renaissance Convention Center New Years Eve Party on the 31st of December and toast for a prosperous 2014, with musical entertainment by Aruban band NBO who will also give you a taste of the popular Aruban Carnival. Ring in the New Year with a champagne toast and spectacular fireworks, enjoy a 'super premium open bar' for \$180 including 18% service charge, \$45 for children between 5 and 12.

Live life to discover from 8 PM till 1 AM and join Renaissance Aruba Resort for the



most popular New Years Eve Party on the island at the Renaissance Convention Center. Dance the night away...at the RLife LIVE Party 2014!

For more information or reservation please contact Mrs. Magaly Willemis at 523-6404 or 523-6403 Live Life to Discover!

Budget

- Quality vehicles; economy and compact cars, intermediate and four-wheel drives with air conditioning.
- Attractive daily & weekly rates.
- Free hotel pick up & drop off.
- Courteous on-time service.

Offices at:

Airport: 5:00 am to 11:00 pm

Hotel: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Camacuri: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Tel. 582-8600 • Fax. 582-7212

E-mail: budgetaruba@setarnet.aw • www.budgetaruba.com

"AN INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED BUDGET SYSTEM LICENSEE"



Hours:
8am - 10pm ish Sunday-Thursday
8am - 3am ish Friday & Saturday
Phone number 586-3904

NOW Serving
Breakfast
lunch and dinner
seven days
a week,

"Delivery to most
hotels & beaches"

- All you can eat
pancakes
\$6.99

- 2 Eggs & Toast
\$4.99

Coffee
or
Tea

Unlimited
Refills - \$0.79

Across from Radisson Resort
The Hi-Rise Hotel District

5 Burgers Aruba

Burgers, Fries.. & More!




Christmas on Aruba then and now...

Continued from pg 1



The patriarchs and matriarchs from Medellin

"It was Tulio who got us all hooked," recalls Susan. "He was here, staying at the Holiday Inn, when he bought at the Beach Club, pre-construction. He came back to Medellin and convinced all of us to buy, which we did, sight-unseen. When we were all finally able to use our timeshares, they far exceeded our expectations. We grew from a small group to now over thirty, with three generations, and friends we have made here have swelled the ranks. This shared time on Aruba during the holiday season is very important to us."

The families are only complimentary of the vast changes they have seen on Aruba over 36 years. "Coming with large groups and needing to prepare so many meals used to be pretty rough, way back when, particularly during the holidays," they recount. "We used to bring our own meat in coolers. We had to go to the harbor to buy fresh fish, fruits and vegetables off the boats from the mainland. Stores closed the day or two before Christmas, or where pretty well cleaned out...we used to

have to stand on a long line to buy bread."

"Sounds like Russia," pipes in Rebecca, "or Venezuela! The big, clean modern markets you have here now are just one of the improvements that makes our stay so much more enjoyable."

They also cited the diversity of eateries and night spots to have vastly and positively impacted their vacation experience. "In the past, midnight rolled around and they would escort you out the door. Now, we find the service, quality and choice of restaurants and clubs improved 100%."

"We also have to give

kudos to the improvements in the airport, and the conversion to rotundas where there used to be traffic lights. We have found in Colombia they also improve the flow of traffic. Oranjestad is so much more appealing now. We are eager to stroll the streets and explore, something we haven't done in years."

"We are particularly impressed with the newly renovated Alhambra Mall. It is extremely attractive. Now it houses a wonderful collection of shops, a chic lounge, and a number of nice restaurants that have appeal for all three generations of our family. We are very pleased to have this within easy walking distance."

For these families from Medellin, the notable changes in Aruba over the last decade, particularly the last four years, are only positive and beneficial. It has made their vacation, particularly for the matriarchs of the family, a true escape. "We have always enjoyed our time on Aruba," notes Susan, "but reflecting back, we would have to say now it is immeasurably improved. The core of what makes it special though, being together in this beautiful, tranquil place with beloved friends and family, has always remained the same. We wouldn't change coming here for the world."

By Rosalie Klein

RLife
LIVE
AT RENAISSANCE HOTELS

— LIVE LIFE TO —
DISCOVER
 — 2014 —

RENAISSANCE HOTELS INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE

NEW YEAR'S EVE

DECEMBER 31ST, 2013 | 8PM - 1AM

JOIN US FOR A DINNER PARTY AT THE RENAISSANCE CONVENTION CENTER, THEN RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH A CHAMPAGNE TOAST AND FIREWORKS. FEATURING LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY NBO BAND. FULL BAR INCLUDED.

TICKETS: \$180 - ADULTS, \$45 - CHILDREN 5-12 YRS. OLD

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
 PLEASE CALL 583.6000 EXT 6403-6404

 RENAISSANCEARUBA.COM

 [FB.COM/RENAISSANCEARUBA](https://fb.com/RENAISSANCEARUBA)

 [@RENARUBA](https://twitter.com/RENARUBA)

R
RENAISSANCE
ARUBA RESORT & CASINO

Tonight's Festival di Dande boasting 46 singers!



ORANJESTAD -- Last Saturday during a meeting at the Urutaka Center a total of 14 groups registered for this year's Festival di Dande to be held Saturday December 28 in the Caiquetio Club in Paradera. This is the 40th year of the Festival di Dande. Some 13 typical Aruban music, 7 Tumba and 8 new compositions, 14 women and 32 men are expected to participate.

The Festival night will open with the singing of the National anthem. The "Streanan di Bonaire," an invited group will open the Festival with 3 typical songs. Following, "Streanan di Paz," which are participants of the festival of Aguinaldo will sing winning songs of the festival. Jelitza Croes and Bertha Wolf and the infant winner will sing their Dande.

"Tipico Del Campo," with two Dande songs: Nelson Tromp and Miro Ridderstap and one typical "Mosa Bunita." La Bomba with one typical, new composition, one Tumba for new year and 5 Dande songs sung by Howard Croes, Robin Giel, Glembert Croes and Marilinda Croes. "Tipico Flam-

boyan, "Tempo Lo Lanta" and "Tipico Savaneta" will all have special music (Dande) to present.

"Tipico Alegre Kadushi Largo" will present their new composition with a Tumba rhythm, sung by Jason Kelly. Other singers will be Angelo Koolman, Jason Kelly, Julissa Boekhoudt and Marilyn Croes. "Grupo Alegre Noord" will present their new composition sung by Lourdes Werleman, Argeline Henriquez, Rosslynbe Henriquez, Tano Carrion, Francis Jacobs, Jennifer Donata and Graham Donata.

Other groups to form part of the Festival di Dande are: "Sonido di Antano," "Dushi Sonido," "Tiro di Fin di Ana," Tumba di Ana Nobo, "Paranda di Antano," and "Tipico Macuarima," some with new compositions and other familiar tunes.

"Paranda ta Nos," is also expected to perform with a typical song sung by Hady Boekhoudt and Jair Boekhoudt.

Other Dande singers expected to delight the audience are: Edjean Semeleer, Danilo Vrolijk, Gilbert Feliciano, Miosotis Tromp and Robert Maduro.

"Los Hermanos" will close the Festival with a new composition, "cancion di Amor," sung by Mariene v/d Linde and dande singers Chebito Trimon and Marlene v/d Linde.

BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT

GO ALL-IN WITH \$500 IN CASH PRIZES!

\$5 BUY-IN

Saturdays

Registration 6pm

Tournament starts 8pm

Re-entry with every 25 points accumulated on your Trop Advantage® Card or \$5.

Management reserves the right to change or cancel promotions at their discretion. Must be 18 years of age or older. Must be a member of the Trop Advantage Club to participate. Play responsibly www.gamblersanonymous.org.



TROP
CLUB & CASINO

J.E. IRAUSQUIN BLVD. 248
Aruba, Dutch Caribbean
troparuba.com

TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT CASINOS | TROPICANACASINOS.COM



For family to spend more time with their loved ones Dr. Horacio E. Oduber Hospital adapts visiting hours during the holidays

ORANJESTAD -- This year once again during the holidays the hospital has adapted its visiting hours so that everyone can get the opportunity to visit their loved ones in the hospital and spend some more time with them during these holidays, Milka Schoop of the Security Department announced.

These hours are not applicable for the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and PAAZ. Mrs. Schoop encourages everyone to visit their loved ones but to respect the security rules of the hospital which is in the best interest of the patient.

She also requested to not come to visit under the influence of alcohol because the security will not allow these persons under influence.

Visiting hours on January 1st: 11:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

At the change of the New Year (2013/2014) the hospital will also be allowing visitors to come and open the new year with their loved ones. They must be present at the hospital at 11 p.m. on December 31st, 2013, and can visit until 1 a.m. January 1st.

Visiting hours for the ICU are daily from midday (12) to 1 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Visiting hours for PAAZ are everyday from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. and from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

It is important for every-

one to keep these special visiting hours in mind so that the patient can enjoy more time in the company of their loved ones during the holidays.

Dr. Horacio Hospital wishes the entire community and especially all patients a Happy New Year!

RED FISH

Quality Seafood

297-280-6666

Open
11:30 am.
to 11 p.m.

Seafood

- ½ Lb Fresh Fish US\$ 10.85 AFIs. 19.00
(Includes: 4-pc funchi, fried plantains french fries, creole sauce & pickled onions)
- ½ Lb Fresh Shrimps US\$ 15.40 AFIs. 27.00
(Includes: 2-pc funchi, fried plantains french fries, tartar sauce & pickled onions)
- Calco "Conch" in Creole or garlic sauce US\$ 21.70 AFIs. 38.00
(Includes: Rice, coleslaw, french fries & fried plantain)
- Panfried Lobster 6 oz. US\$ 20.00 AFIs. 35.00
(Includes: Rice, coleslaw, french fries & fried plantain)

Special Plates

- Chicken Sate US\$ 10.85 AFIs. 19.00
(Includes: french fries & peanut sauce)
- Fillet Mignon 6 oz (Angus) US\$ 18.30 AFIs. 32.00
(Includes: Rice, coleslaw french fries & fried plantain)
- Extra side orders US\$ 3.00 AFIs. 5.00
(Rice, coleslaw, french fries, fried plantain)

Ask for the Soup of the Day

Italiestraat # 50 (Orange Plaza) Closed on Mondays

Europcar

- Attractive Rates
- Fast & Friendly
- Service
- Free Road Map

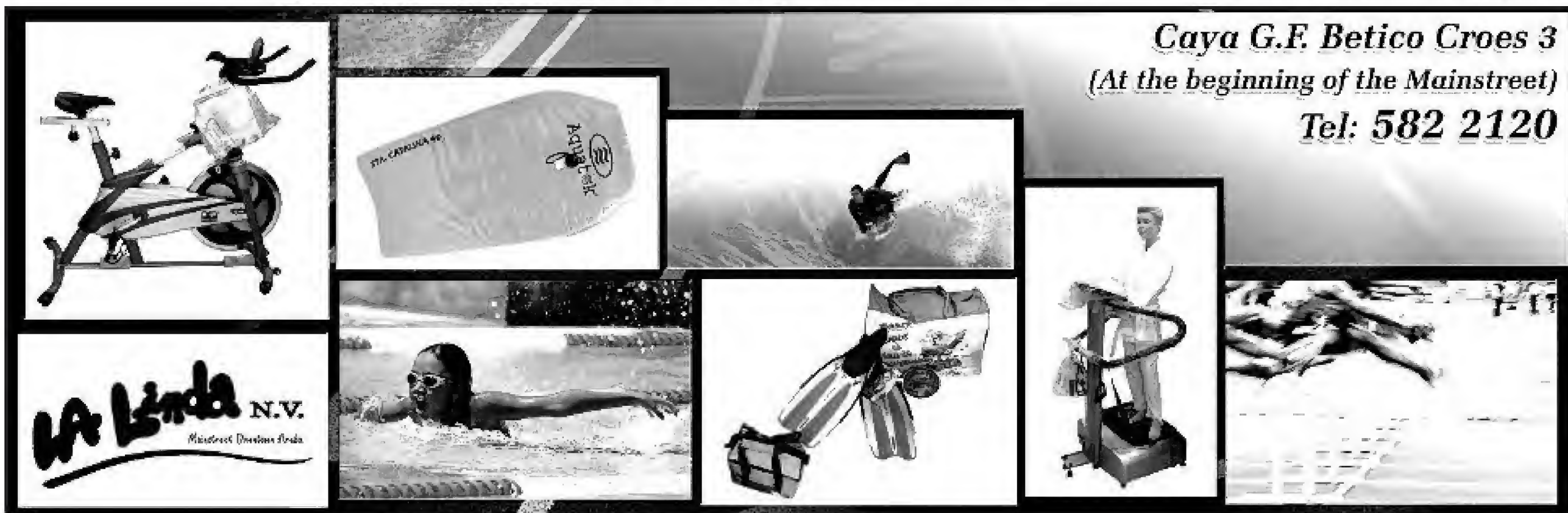


Compact Size - Automatic/AC
Fees + taxes included!!



Economy Size - Manual/AC
Fees + taxes included!!

Call us for
FREE Pick-up
583-0200



Caya G.F. Betico Croes 3
(At the beginning of the Mainstreet)
Tel: 582 2120

Cas Animal Cont'd

A happy holiday story of a Cas Animal rescued puppy



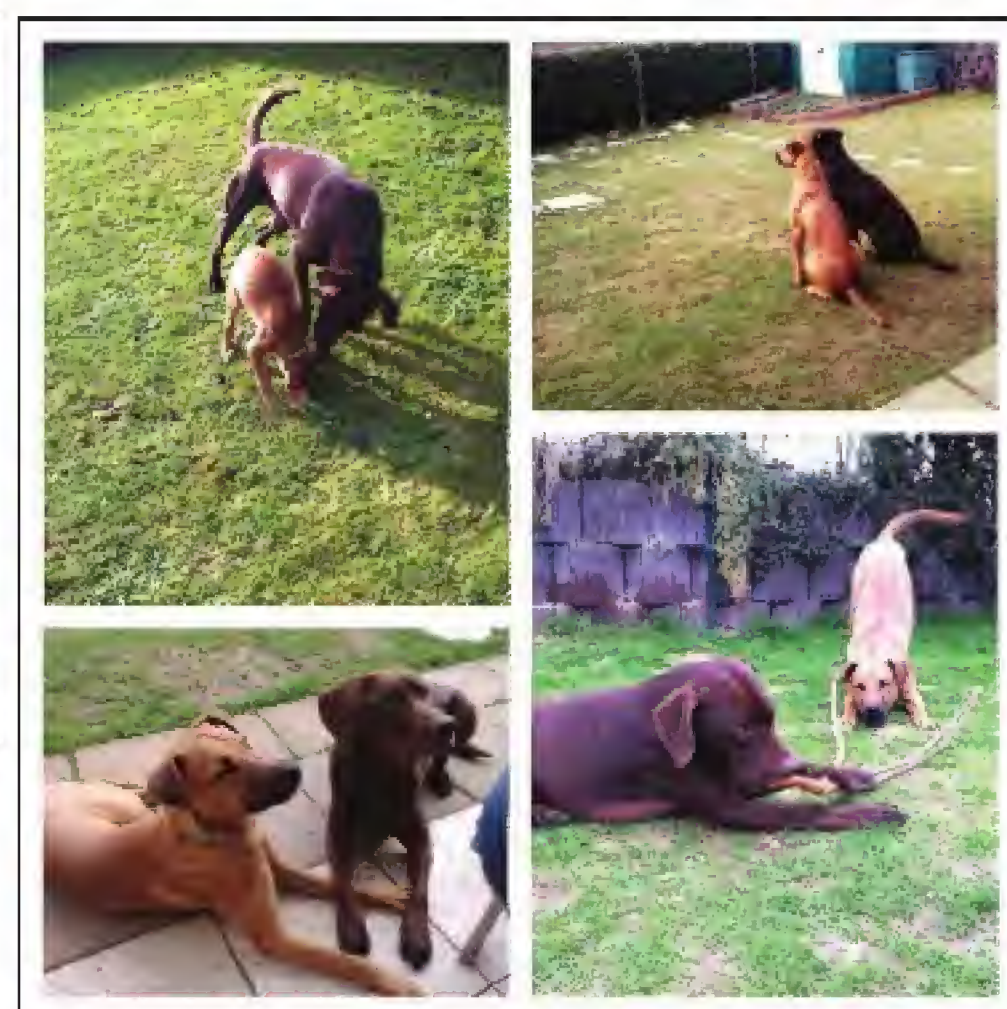
Kiki, Big and Little Toni and Heike

when he was found and today

The Cas Animal Foundation of Aruba is dedicated to rescuing abandoned and abused dogs off island streets, ideally to be placed in a good home. No matter how badly injured or weakened by disease, Cas Animal founder, Kirsten Arndt, has discovered hundreds of times over that with proper medical care, they can be rehabilitated to be a wonderful friend to a loving person. Often, their afflictions are only superficial, but rendering them unattractive, which is no reason, in Kirsten's opinion, to deprive them of a happy life and the chance to be a loyal, loving companion.

Kirsten will take in a dog where she finds them hungry, weak or mistreated, or daily answers a call from a good Samaritan wishing to help or adopt a stray they have found. Often, these are tourists who have no idea how to help a dog they have befriended. Quite a few rescued animals have traveled to new digs with adoring new "parents" to the U.S. and Europe, with Kirsten's assistance.

We have just such a touching success story, suitable for the season. A young honey-



BFFs forever

moon couple from Germany, Toni and Heike, sent Cas Animal season's greetings and a follow up story of the adorable puppy they found weak and dehydrated at the Alto Vista Chapel, just over one year ago. After many inquiries, they were fortunately directed to Cas Animal. Kirsten retrieved the young puppy, who was dubbed "Little Toni," and delivered it to Contreras Veterinary Clinic, which works closely with the foundation to rehabilitate the dogs.

Little Toni had some unsightly sores, was anemic and

weak from hunger and thirst, but otherwise, a healthy puppy. He returned to Germany with Toni and Heike, and though they were upset that Dutch health officials insisted on keeping the puppy for a few weeks in quarantine, he soon joined his new family. This included Nero, an older dog, who it appears was very happy to have a lively young companion. Little Toni has grown into a handsome adult dog, and Big Toni and Heike feel blessed to have him as a part of their household.

Continued on pg 5

Early Bird Menu

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm



Appetizers: Stuffed Avocado, Escargots Bourguignon, (choose one) Fruits of the Seven Seas, Choices of Soups

Entrees: Breaded Grouper topped with coconut shrimps served with rice and vegetables

Land & Sea
 Chicken Breast, Steak & Shrimps with rice and vegetables

Breaded Chicken Breast
 served with mushroom sauce, topped with cheese served with vegetables and stuffed potato

Twin Tenderloin or Chicken Parmesan
 served on a bed of linguini pasta

Dessert, Coffee or Tea

US\$27

(tax & 15% service charge)

Includes one FREE
 Glass of Wine



Buccaneer Restaurant - Gasparito 11, Noord
 phone: (+297) 586 6172 - www.buccaneeraruba.com

Extend your Stay at
Quality Apartments
 73 Fully furnished apts. Kitchen / Airco / Cable TV
 Free Internet / Library / Swimming Pool / Laundry / Fitness Room
 Less than 1 mile from Eagle Beach! Feel free to contact or visit us.
 Mon - Fri: 8am-7pm. Sat&Sun: 9am-5pm
Tel: (297) 582-0697 / 583-7484 Fax: 583-5203
 E-mail: quality@setarnet.aw - Website: www.arubaqualityapartments.com

Cas Animal

Cont. from pg 4

They send "big hugs" to all those in Aruba who helped to make it so.

Cas Animal has everything in place to embark on its ultimate mission: the construction of Aruba's first, strictly no-kill dog shelter. The facility will house close to 300 dogs, plus cats and have an onsite-clinic. It has been designed to run on renewable energy and be wholly sustainable. Until then, Kirsten has converted her home into a temporary sanctuary. Presently, she cares for around 50 dogs she has rescued, with the ever-present hope of placing them in good homes. Whether they are adopted or not, she will continue to care for and love them, despite lost limbs from accidents, or a missing eye. They have a happy life and the companionship they crave. With only a few bureaucratic kinks to iron out, construction should begin early this year.

Anyone who may be interested in adopting a dog can, even if you are not an island resident. Call Kirsten at 742-8732 and she will help you through the process of acquiring the papers and a carrier needed to take home one of our sweet, affectionate cunucu dogs, who make excellent watch dogs, too. As this story demonstrates, this is done regularly and many happy owners find great pleasure in being reminded every day of Aruba by the loving new companion.

The medical and feeding costs of rescued animals is never ending. Those wishing to support Kirsten's work with donations can do so in the form of payment to the Cas Animal Foundation account at the Contreras Veterinary Clinics, call: 587-0917. Donations can be made directly to the foundation's account: Cas Animal Foundation, CMB Bank account # 25762110. Kirsten maintains an animal ambulance, so also call her to report a dog in distress.



**Innovation
that excites**

- Door to more
- Surprisingly Spacious
- Environmentally Friendly

NEW NISSAN NOTE. TECHNOLOGY FOR ALL THAT WE ARE.

Our gadgets, the places we go to, the things we travel with. It all speaks of who we are. The New Nissan Note has room for everything that's important and the technology to make things a little bit easier.



Intelligent Key with Push Button Ignition.



Rear View Monitor.



Flexible Cargo Space.



AWG. 43,800
(excl. bbo)

TOPCAR

Caya Ernesto Petronia 21 • Tel: 582-1547
Fax: 582-9877 • www.nissan.aw • f

Aruba's Weather Forecast - VALID TILL SATURDAY AFTERNOON 5:00 PM DECEMBER 28 2013



WEATHER:
PARTLY CLOUDY TO MOSTLY SUNNY WITH A SLIGHT

CHANCE OF A PASSING SHOWER.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE 30 CENTIGRADE / **MINIMUM TEMPERATURE** 25 CENTIGRADE.

WIND: STRONG EASTERN TRADEWINDS WITH FORCE 5 TO 7 (19 KNOTS WITH MAXIMUM OF 29 KNOTS).

GENERAL SITUATION:

HIGH PRESSURE WILL KEEP A GENERALLY STABLE ATMOSPHERE OVER THE ISLANDS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEKEND AND AT THE START OF THE NEW WEEK. THEREFORE, SKIES OVER THE LEEWARD AND WINDWARD ISLANDS WILL BE GENERALLY PARTLY CLOUDY


WITH ONLY SOME LIGHT PASSING SHOWERS POSSIBLE FROM THE TRADEWINDS.

MARINE CONDITIONS:

WAVE DIRECTION WILL BE EAST-NORTHEAST WITH WAVE-HEIGHTS BETWEEN 4 TO 8 FEET.

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE WEEKEND AND BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK: CHANCE OF A PASSING SHOWER WILL BE

SMALL. OR NEW-YEAR CHANCE OF A PASSING SHOWER WILL INCREASE. TRADEWINDS REMAIN MODERATE TO STRONG. TEMPERATURE WILL BE AROUND NORMAL. OBSERVED TEMPERATURE (CENTIGRADE) AND RAINFALL (MM) IN THE LAST 24 HOURS: AIRPORT MAX 31 / MIN 26 / 1.00. HADICURARI MAX 28 / MIN 26 / 0.00.



Taj Mahal
Taste of India
Authentic Indian Restaurant
on the Island

Open Mon - Sat
Lunch : 12:00 - 3:00pm
Dinner : 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Havenstraat 36,
Behind Royal Plaza Mall,
Oranjestad, Tel : 5884494

US Judge rules NSA phone surveillance lawful

Continued from pg 1

The judge sided with US spy chiefs who say that by connecting the dots between archived calls and terrorist suspects, US officials can keep the country safe.

The NSA hoovers up information about virtually every telephone call to, from and within the United States, and says it is the only way to discern patterns left behind by foreign terror groups.

The judge quoted the 2004 report by the 9/11 Commission -- the panel which investigated the 2001 Al-Qaeda attack on the United States -- as saying it was a false choice between liberty and security, as "nothing is more apt to imperil civil liberties than the success of a terrorist attack on American soil."

"As the September 11th attacks demonstrate, the cost of missing such a thread can be horrific. Technology allowed Al-Qaeda to operate decentralized and plot international terrorist attacks remotely," he wrote.

"The bulk telephony metadata collection program represents the government's

counter-punch: connecting fragmented and fleeting communications to reconstruct and eliminate Al-Qaeda's terror network."

The judge quoted examples in which NSA phone monitoring in 2009 exposed an Al-Qaeda plot to bomb the New York subway, and cite a plot by convicted Pakistani-American terrorist David Headley to bomb a Danish newspaper office.

"Unintentional violations of guidelines," Pauley said, appeared to have stemmed from "human error" and "incredibly complex computer programs" and had been rectified where discovered.

This month, an official panel handed President Barack Obama a review of the NSA's surveillance program along with more than 40 recommendations to install safeguards and limit its scope.

But the administration is not expected to significantly curtail the mission, and Snowden remains a fugitive from US justice who has been granted temporary asylum in Russia.

US boy, 9, scales South America's highest peak

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - It's no small feat to scale South America's tallest peak -- especially when you are nine.

That's what Tyler Armstrong managed to do on Christmas Eve, joined by his father and other climbers -- with special permission from authorities for the underaged adventurer.

Aconcagua soars almost 7,000 meters in the Andes on Argentina's Mendoza province along its border with Chile.

Armstrong broke the record for the youngest per-

son to scale Aconcagua, said the head of his expedition, Nicolas Garcia, on local C5N television.

His mom, Priscilla Armstrong, wrote on the young climber's website: "Super proud of you honey! I can stop worrying now! Actually, you will probably keep worrying me if you keep being so adventurous! Great- more grey hair!"

Earlier this year, Tyler scaled Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa's tallest peak at 5,900 meters.



BOSS
HUGO BOSS

Emmestraat #3-Plaza Margarita
Downtown
Hours: 9:30 till 6:30 pm (Mon-Thru Sat)
Phone: (297)588-5406

W. House urges extension of US unemployment benefits

WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama's administration on Friday urged US lawmakers to swiftly restore unemployment benefits, criticizing a decision not to extend emergency aid to 1.3 million people looking for work.

A statement from the Director of the National Economic Council, Gene Sperling, said the move "defied economic sense."

"Never before have we abruptly cut off emergency unemployment insurance when we faced this level of long-term unemployment and it would be a blow to these families and our economy," Sperling said.

Obama signed a framework law on Thursday which will oversee the federal budget for the next two years following tough negotiations

between Democrats and Republicans.

However the agreement did not settle the issue of emergency compensation for

long-term unemployed, which expires on Saturday.

US lawmakers do not return from the Christmas and New Year break until January 3.

Rescue of stranded Antarctic ship stalls

SYDNEY (AFP) - A Chinese icebreaker has failed to reach a scientific expedition vessel trapped off Antarctica, stalling the rescue mission after it was unable to break through thick ice, Australian maritime authorities said Saturday. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), which is coordinating the rescue of the Russian passenger ship MV Akademik Shokalskiy, said the icebreaker came within six-and-a-half nautical miles of the ship but had to stop. The Russian ship, with 74 people on board, has been trapped in ice about 100 nautical miles east of the French base Dumont D'Urville since Tuesday. Three vessels with icebreaking capability, including Australia's Antarctic resupply ship Aurora Australis, have headed to the area to attempt to rescue the vessel. It is not yet clear whether the Aurora Australis, which has the highest icebreaking rating of the three and is not due in the area until Sunday, will be able to go any further than the Chinese vessel, the Snow Dragon.

Five die of hunger in besieged Syria camp: NGO

BEIRUT (AFP) - Five people, including an elderly man, a woman and a disabled man, have died of hunger in a besieged Palestinian refugee camp south of Damascus, a monitoring group said Friday.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's troops have sealed off several rebel-held areas ringing the capital, some for more than a year, prompting fears of a worsening humanitarian disaster as citizens run low on food and fuel.

Their deaths were "the result of the siege imposed by regime troops" on the Yarmuk refugee camp, it said.

The UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees and several rights groups have called on the Syrian regime to lift the siege of Yarmuk, and on both troops and rebels to allow aid into the camp.

The Syrian army has besieged several rebel areas, including Moadamiyet al-Sham southwest of the capital, where several people have reportedly starved to death.

The extreme shortages led rebels in the town to announce a truce with the regime starting Wednesday, on condition that food was allowed in, but the ceasefire was broken a day later.

On Friday, the local opposition council said that while "no food aid has yet entered the town... the parties to the truce remain committed to the agreement".

Syria's nearly three-year civil war has claimed an estimated 126,000 lives and displaced millions of people.

Gold Coast Aruba... A Place for You!



**Please call for a
FREE pick-up!**

Open week days
from 8am - 5pm.

Saturday and Sunday
on appointment only.



3 minutes drive to
Arashi Beach



Across an 18-hole
Golf Course

Luxury Villas, Town Homes & Condos

Contact us by email at info@goldcoastaruba.com

Tel: +297-586-2200 • Fax: +297-586-2201

Toll Free from the U.S. 1-866-978-5770

www.goldcoastaruba.com

PRICE STARTING FROM \$289,000

Visit us for Your Island Dream Home Ownership

Monthly Mortgage Payments
starting from \$1,650



Gold Coast
Malmok • Aruba

No regrets say Greenpeace Arctic activists after UK return

LONDON (AFP) - Five British Greenpeace activists arrived home in defiant mood on Friday after Russia granted them an amnesty to halt their prosecution for protesting against oil drilling in the Arctic.

Precisely 100 days after they were arrested on a Greenpeace ship, they flew from Saint Petersburg to Paris and then took a Eurostar train to London.

Anthony Perrett, Phil Ball, Iain Rogers, Alex Harris and filmmaker Kieron Bryan

smiled as they posed for a scrum of photographers before emotional family reunions in the arrivals hall of St Pancras station.

Perrett said it was "good to be back" and he was "looking forward to spending some time in the woods" in his native Wales.

He said conditions in the prison in the Arctic Circle city of Murmansk, where the group of 30 activists were first held, were "a real challenge" and ad-

mitted he had experienced "quite a few dark moments".

Perrett said there had been deep snow and they were held in their cells for 23 hours a day, sharing a toilet between three people.

They were later moved to a more comfortable prison in Saint Petersburg before being released from custody after two months. They were allowed to leave Russia after the Kremlin-backed amnesty was issued.

Asked if the protest had achieved Greenpeace's aims, Perrett said: "Of course it has been worth it. Our mission is to save the Arctic and stop oil exploration and we've never enjoyed quite so much media."

He said it was "completely preposterous" that the group had initially been charged with piracy, which carries a prison sentence of up to 15 years under Russian law.

The Greenpeace activists had been on board the Dutch-

flagged ship Arctic Sunrise, targeting an offshore oil rig owned by the Russian energy giant Gazprom when they were seized in September by Russian security forces who winched down from a helicopter.

Alex Harris, the Greenpeace communications officer on the ship, said she thought the Russian government had granted the amnesty to avoid global criticism with just weeks to go until the start of the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.

Amazing views over Aruba,

Our Unique Location, Exquisite Italian Cuisine, Outdoor Bar, Warm Service and our Indoor and Outdoor tables make us
... The Experience you can't miss

Situated on the Hill of Hudishibana right next to the California Lighthouse

Open Daily at 8.30 AM
 serving a mini Breakfast,
 Lunch (11 AM) and Dinner (5.30 PM).
 Happy Hour from 5 to 7 PM.
 Live Music Daily
 from 7.30 to 9.30 PM.

**Ideal for Spectacular Sunset
 and views over Aruba Pictures.**

Please present this ad for a 10% discount on your food selection.

LA TRATTORIA
EL FARO BLANCO
 RESTAURANT

The Perfect Location
 for ALL Celebrations.

Please call

586 0786

for Reservations

THE BEST OF ITALY IN ARUBA

Argentina court grants abortion for teen rape victim

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - A court in Argentina ruled Friday that a 14-year old rape victim could have an abortion, overturning a judge's earlier decision barring the girl from seeking the procedure.

The teenage girl discovered early last month that she was pregnant after being raped by her mother's partner.

The teen and her mother, who live in the city of Salto, one of the most conservative in Argentina, sought an abor-

tion at an area hospital.

But a family court judge in a December 17 ruling denied her petition to terminate her pregnancy, instead ordering the girl to give birth and surrender the baby for adoption.

The lower court decision denying the girl an abortion had provoked outrage by women's groups which maintained that the judge had exceeded his authority.

Judge Victor Soria had ruled that the right to life of the unborn child trumped the

rights of the teen, but Salta's Supreme Court on Friday overturned that decision.

Abortion for the most part is illegal in Argentina, but there are exceptions, including in the case of rape, or when the life of the mother is at risk.

A federal Supreme Court last year issued a ruling that rape victims could not be punished for terminating a pregnancy, and no longer would need a court's permission to get an abortion.

The court ruled that a woman's sworn statement at the doctor's office that she had been rendered pregnant following a sexual assault would be sufficient.

But the high court ruling has not always been observed, with some conservative localities -- like Salto, located some 200 kilometers (125 miles) from Buenos Aires -- still requiring that rape victims seek court permission for an abortion, and in some cases refusing to grant it.

More people to give up a kidney

THE HAGUE - This year 41 individuals have given up a kidney to help someone they do not know, according to the Dutch transplant foundation.

In 2007, there were just six 'altruistic' donations.

Every year, there are some 400 live donations in the Netherlands but most go to a family member or friend.

One in three sick days is due to stress

THE HAGUE - Social affairs minister Lodewijk Asscher is to make reducing absenteeism due to work-related stress a priority, with a major campaign starting in April.

One-third of days taken off sick by Dutch workers are stress-related, Asscher said in a statement. He is now drawing up a four-year plan to tackle what is the biggest cause of absenteeism facing Dutch companies. The budget for enacting the plan next year is set at €1m.

Too much pressure, discrimination, bullying, sexual intimidation and violence on the shop floor are all causes of work-related stress, Asscher said in his briefing to parliament. It can also stem from the struggle to combine work with family care duties.

EXPLORE THE ISLANDS

BONAIRE
 EXPLORE THE FLAMINGO ISLAND, ITS UNDER WATER MARINE LIFE & CATCH A TECHNICOLOR SUNSET

CURACAO
 SPEND A DAY SIGHTSEEING AND VISIT THE HISTORIC SITES AND LOCAL CULTURE

Aruba Curacao Bonaire

tel: (297) 528 4272 / (297) 594 9066
 Pick up your brochure at the stand
www.tiara-air.com

Tiara Air Aruba



DRIVE SAFELY



NEW YORK (AFP) (L-R) Regan Iglesia, Jeffrey Strauss and Tim Tompkins attend a press conference for the 2014 New Year's Eve Waterford Crystal Installation at One Times Square Friday in New York City

BLING IN THE NEW YEAR

FEEL THE VIBE...

glitz

casino

ARUBA'S PREMIER CASINO

CREATE 25 POINTS ON YOUR GLAMOUR CLUB CARD AND RECEIVE

2014

POINTS

ON BOTH DEC 31 & JAN 1, 2014

**Giovanni to conduct the Count Down to Midnight
a Balloon Drop in the Liquid Lounge at Midnight
Champagne toast to welcome in the New Year
Free Snacks**

ENTERTAINMENT:

**GIOVANNI TRIM 8 P.M. TO 12 A.M.
DJ 12 A.M. TO 4 A.M.**

587 3399 • LOCATED AT LA CABANA BEACH RESORT & CASINO

Surprises, snubs in Oscars foreign film shortlist

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Nine movies including Palestinian, Danish and Hong Kong movies have been shortlisted for the best foreign language film Oscar, organizers announced last Friday, offering surprises and some unexpected snubs.

Films left out included Saudi Arabia's first-ever candidate and Pakistan's first entry in five decades, while an Oscar-winning Iranian director also failed to make the cut.

Films by Belgian, Bosnian, Cambodian, German, Hungarian and Italian directors are on the shortlist, which did not include any women filmmakers. "The Hunt" by Dane Thomas Vinterberg, "The Grandmaster" from Hong Kong's Wong Kar-wai and "The Great Beauty" by Italian Paolo Sorrentino could be among the frontrunners.

But Iranian entry "The Past" -- by director Asghar Farhadi, who won the best foreign film



"The Broken Circle Breakdown," of Belgium

Oscar in 2012 for "A Separation" -- was not on Friday's list, despite forecasts that it would be among the leading nominees.

The films were whittled down from a long list of 76 movies announced in October by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which organizes Hollywood's biggest annual awards fest.

They will be reduced to five nominees next month, before nods in all Oscar categories are

announced on January 16. The 86th Academy Awards will be held on March 2.

The nine shortlisted foreign language films are:

- "The Broken Circle Breakdown," Belgium, director Felix van Groenigen.
- "An Episode in the Life of an Iron Picker," Bosnia and Herzegovina, director Danis Tanovic.
- "The Missing Picture," Cambodia, director Rithy Panh.

- "The Hunt," Denmark, director Thomas Vinterberg.

- "Two Lives," Germany, director Georg Maas.

- "The Grandmaster," Hong Kong, director Wong Kar-wai.

- "The Notebook," Hungary, director Janos Szasz.

- "The Great Beauty," Italy, director Paolo Sorrentino.

- "Omar," Palestine, director Hany Abu-Assad.

Industry journal Variety said the most surprising snubs were for Chilean Sebastian Lelio's "Gloria," Poland's "Walesa: Man of Hope" by Andrzej Wajda, as well as the Iranian and Saudi entries.

The Saudi long-list candidate, "Wadjda" by Haifaa al-Mansour, is an avowedly feminist movie about a young girl's quest to own a bicycle in the ultra-conservative Muslim kingdom where women are deprived of many rights, among them driving.

Directed by Saudi Arabia's first female filmmaker and shot entirely in the Gulf state,

the film won best Arabic feature award at the Dubai Film Festival last year and picked up an award in Cannes in March.

For Pakistan, "Zinda Bhaag" ("Flee Alive") was the first Oscar entry for over 50 years. It is a comedy-thriller about three young men trying to escape the drudgery of their everyday lives through unconventional means.

Other high-profile titles not on the shortlist include Chinese director Feng Xiaogang's "Back to 1942," "Winter of Discontent," by Egypt's Ibrahim El Batout and Israel's "Bethlehem" by director Yuval Adler, Variety said.

The Cannes Palme d'Or winner "Blue is the Warmest Color" from France did not make the list, because its release date did not meet Oscar nomination criteria, but it could still feature in other categories, including for best picture and actress, the industry journal noted.

3 minutes
Walking Distance
to the beach

ACQUA

CONDOMINIUMS



The Most Beautiful Condominiums in Aruba with a perfect location

Special offer up to 25% CASH DEAL DISCOUNT

Visit our model suites open **MONDAY** till **FRIDAY 8:30 - 5:30 / SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 10:00 - 2:00**
Phone: 586.9696 - email: info@aquaruba.com / www.aquaruba.com

More Americans shopped on their phones on Christmas

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Most stores were closed but Americans still managed to shop on Christmas Day -- increasingly on their smartphones.

An IBM survey showed Christmas Day online sales were up 16.5 percent over last year, with a strong boost from smartphones and tablets.

Mobile traffic was the highest IBM found over this holiday season, accounting for 48 percent of all online traffic. And mobile accounted for nearly 29 percent of all online sales, up 40 percent over 2012.

Smartphones drove 28.5 percent of all online traffic compared to 18.1 percent for

tablets, according to IBM. But tablets drove twice as many sales -- 19.4 percent of all online sales, to 9.3 percent for smartphones.

Tablet users averaged \$95.61 per order, versus \$85.11 for smartphone users.

IBM found that Apple iPhone and iPad users were bigger shoppers than their counterparts using Google Android-powered devices.

As a percentage of total online sales, Apple's iOS was more than five times higher than Android, driving 23 percent of sales to 4.6 percent for Android.

On average, iOS users spent \$93.94 per order, to \$48.10 per order for Android, according to the survey.

Shoppers referred from Facebook averaged \$72.01 per order, while Pinterest referrals drove \$86.83 per order, IBM said. However, Facebook referrals converted sales at nearly four times the rate of Pinterest referrals, the report found.



UNICASA

Supermarket

PALM BEACH # 184
TEL: (297) 586-8540

Next to
Grand Victoria Bar & Restaurant
Close to the traffic lights
and high rise hotel area.

Opening hours:
Monday - Saturday 8a.m. - 12midnight / Sunday 8a.m - 10p.m



**WE OFFER QUALITY
EXCELLENT SERVICE, A
WIDE VARIETY OF
LIQUORS AND WINES
AND MUCH MORE**

**BEST PRICES
ON
THE ISLAND**



BRING THIS AD TO RECEIVE A FREE ORANGE JUICE

Also open for **Lunch**

Breakfast *Romancing the Stone at*
\$9.99 **Le Petit Cafe**
 MONDAY THRU SATURDAY 8-11 AM
 2 EGGS (FRIED, SCRAMBLED OR POACHED)
 WITH BACON, AND LINK SAUSAGES.
 POTATOES, TOAST AND COFFEE OR TEA.

Stone Grill Restaurant & Bar Every Day From 5-7pm

Dinner Salad or Soup of the day	Lemon chicken Breast or Petite Filet Mignon or Filet of Grouper	Ice Cream Chocolate or Vanilla
---------------------------------------	---	---

All served with French Fries or Baked Potato on our Famous HOT Stone

LOCATED AT:
PLAYA LINDA
BEACH RESORT
TE: 586 4046

Dinner
\$24.95
 EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

US oil prices close above \$100 a barrel on strong data

NEW YORK (AFP) - US oil prices closed above \$100 a barrel for the first time since October on Friday after a weekly US oil inventory report showed strong demand for crude and petroleum products.

US benchmark West Texas Intermediate for February delivery rose 77 cents to \$100.32 on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

European benchmark Brent oil for February delivery increased 20 cents to \$112.18 a barrel.

US crude inventories fell by 4.7 million barrels, more than the 2.2 million expected by analysts in a Wall Street Journal

survey.

Gasoline stockpiles fell by 600,000, while analysts had projected a build of 1 million barrels.

The report comes amid other signs the US economy is picking up. Reports earlier this week on new home sales, durable goods orders and jobless claims have also bested expectations.

Oil traders have also been watching developments in South Sudan in recent days, where violence in a key oil-producing region has dented crude output and led to numerous oilfield staff evacuations.

Target says 'strongly encrypted' data taken in breach

NEW YORK (AFP) - US retailer Target said Friday that hackers obtained "strongly encrypted" data in a recent security breach, but that customer debit cards do not appear to have been compromised.

"While we previously shared that encrypted data was obtained, this morning through additional forensics work we were able to confirm that strongly encrypted PIN (personal identification number) data was removed," Target said in an update to the massive breach affecting some 40 million customers.

"We remain confident that PIN numbers are safe and secure."

Target said the PIN data is

encrypted within company systems that can only be decrypted by its "external, independent payment processor." The "key" to decrypt the data is not part of the Target system and could not have been taken, it said.

"The most important thing for our guests to know is that their debit card accounts have not been compromised due to the encrypted PIN numbers being taken," Target said.

The big US retailer said on December 19 that some 40 million customers may have been affected after hackers broke into its payment database between November 27 and December 15.

Target has said previously

that hackers had obtained data that included customer name, credit or debit card number, and the card's expiration date and CVV (the three-digit security code).

The company is working with the Secret Service and the US Department of Justice to investigate the data breach.

Analysts consider the data breach one of the worst in recent memory. At least three class-action lawsuits have been filed on the matter.

Target shares were off 0.4 percent at midday. Target shares have dipped 2.1 percent since December 18, a period that has seen the broader market repeatedly lifted to new record highs.

Delta to honor cheap flights sold in systems glitch

NEW YORK (AFP) - Delta Air Lines said Friday it would honor tickets sold at a fraction of their normal price because of computer glitch that afflicted the airline's website the prior day.

"For a portion of the morning yesterday, some prices on delta.com and other booking channels were incorrectly displayed, resulting in lower than

usual fares for customers," said Delta spokesman Trebor Banstetter.

"The situation has been resolved and the correct prices are being displayed."

Banstetter said Delta "will honor any fares purchased at the incorrect price."

Press reports chronicled almost comically low fares, such as a round-trip ticket between New York and Los Angeles for \$25 and a round-trip voyage between Baltimore and Honolulu for less than \$100.

Spain PM promises jobs in 2014

MADRID (AFP) - Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy vowed in an end-of-year message Friday to deliver longed-for jobs to the hard-hit nation in 2014.

Rajoy sounded an optimistic note after the eurozone's fourth largest economy emerged gingerly from recession in the third quarter of 2013 despite registering a staggering 26-percent unemployment rate.

The Popular Party government remained "far" from its key goal of generating net jobs growth, the prime minister conceded.

Nevertheless, Rajoy said he expected Spain would end

2013 with fewer people registered as unemployed than in 2012. "That has not happened in Spain since 2006," he said.

Rajoy said Spain's economy, which expanded by 0.1 percent in the third quarter, had regained a path of "modest" growth in the second half of 2013.

The country had to borrow 41 billion euros from its eurozone

partners to shore up tottering banks, ridden with bad loans since a decade-long property boom imploded in 2008.

Spain's government is forecasting a 1.3-percent economic contraction in 2013 and 0.7-percent growth in 2014, a pace considered by many analysts to be insufficient to lead to net job creation.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

B	A	S	S	W	I	D	E
S	T	A	P	L	E	I	R
L	O	R	E	A	L	N	I
O	R	R	T	E	R	S	A
P	A	I	R	S	I	S	
S	H	E	E	R	M	A	T
N	O	G		P	O	R	K
F	A	D	E	R	S	M	O
P	U	C	E	I	C	I	C
H	E	R	R	D	O	N	A
I	L	E	S	S	W	A	T

Sasaki Apartments

Fully furnished studio apartments, walking distance to Eagle Beach, per day, week or month, excellent alternative for your next vacation in Aruba.

Bubali #143, Noord, Aruba

Phones: (297) 587-7482 / 587-6474 Fax: (297) 587-8448

www.sasaki-apartments.com

E-mail: sasakipartments@hotmail.com

FOR RENT

2 Bedroom, 1 bathroom
Mabon Kavel - Brazil
Afls. 1000.-
Cel. 5649485

COMICS

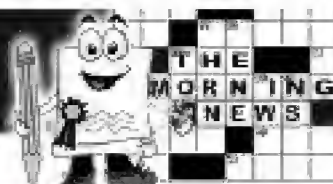


calvin
and
hobbes

BY WATSON LUTZ
Adapted by JEFFREY M. ROSS, syndicator



CROSSWORD



CROSSWORD

see our website:
www.themorningnewsaruba.com

ACROSS

- 1 Building locations
6 Secret emissary
9 "___ Twist" (Dickens)
11 Colt's father
12 Italian cheese
13 Wagon pullers
14 Seth's mom
15 Seer's cards
17 Cincinnati players
19 Adam's son and name-sakes
20 Member of a coven
22 Scale
24 Subsidies
28 Columnist Hedda ___
30 Jackie O's second husband

31 Baseball's Winfield

32 Doesn't dine out (2 wds.)

34 Ceases to exist

35 Giving the pink slip

36 Transgress

37 Copenhagen natives

DOWN

- 1 More achy
2 "___ Paris" (2 wds.)

3 Used a stopwatch

4 One Gabor

5 Delivered e-mail

6 "The ___ Sense" (1999 film)

7 Printer's machine

8 Great longing

10 Little piggy's dinner (2 wds.)

11 Assuage

16 ___ room

18 Steals

21 Brat

22 Seat

23 Romeo, e.g.

25 Wash bowl

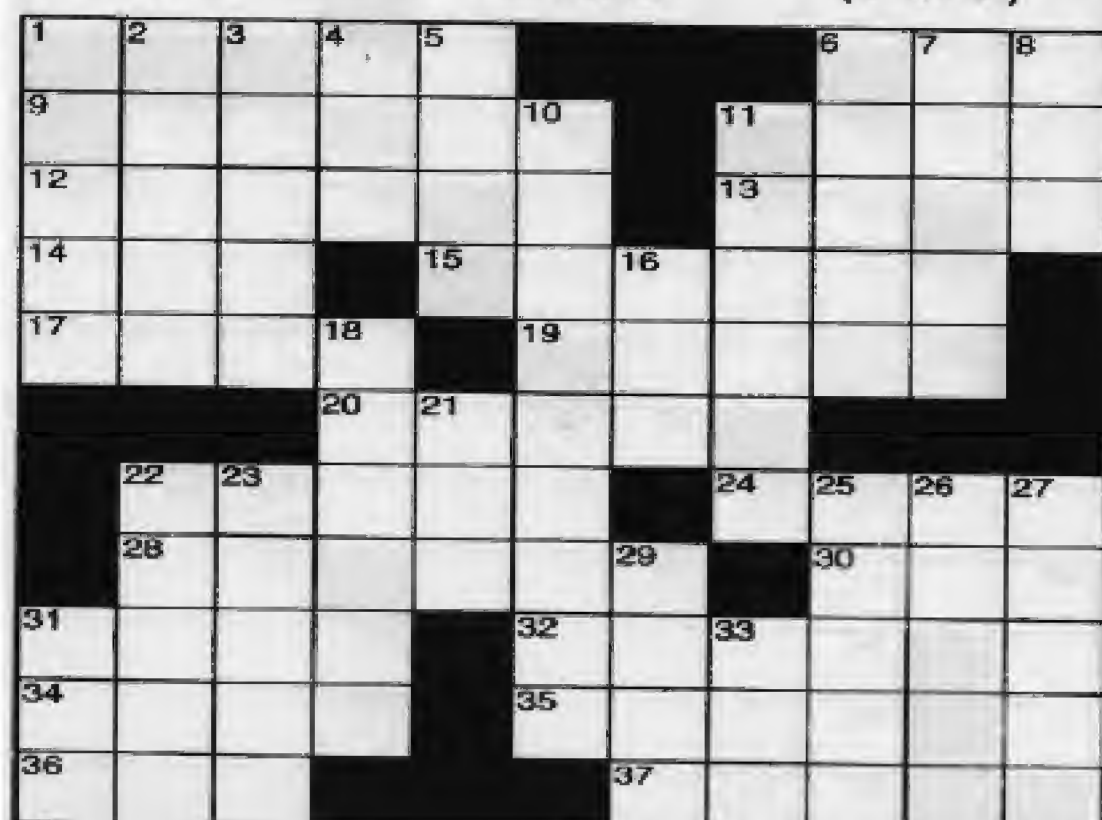
26 Salty water

27 Vocalizes

29 Bug spray brand

31 Eisenhower's initials

33 Singing syllable



BOTICA

DRUG STORES OPEN AFTER HOURS

Dec. 28 - Jan. 04

O'stad : ' Botica Kibrahacha ' - S.N: ' San Nicolas '

Center for Hemodialysis
Posada Clinic Aruba
Tel.580-2840/Pager 127-2446

INFORMATION

Telephone 118

Twelve Step Meetings
24 hours helpline 583-8989

Fellowship Clinic S.N.

Free treatment of
Alcoholism
and Drug Addiction
Anonymity guaranteed
Tel. 584-5440

SOS TELEAYUDO SOS

Telephone Helpline
583-1190
Mon.-Thu. 9 p.m.-12 midn.
Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

CAS MARIE

Alzheimer's Day
Care Center
Tel: 5696910

Important
Telephone
Numbers

HOSPITAL

Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel.5274000

EMERGENCY

Telephone 911
POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

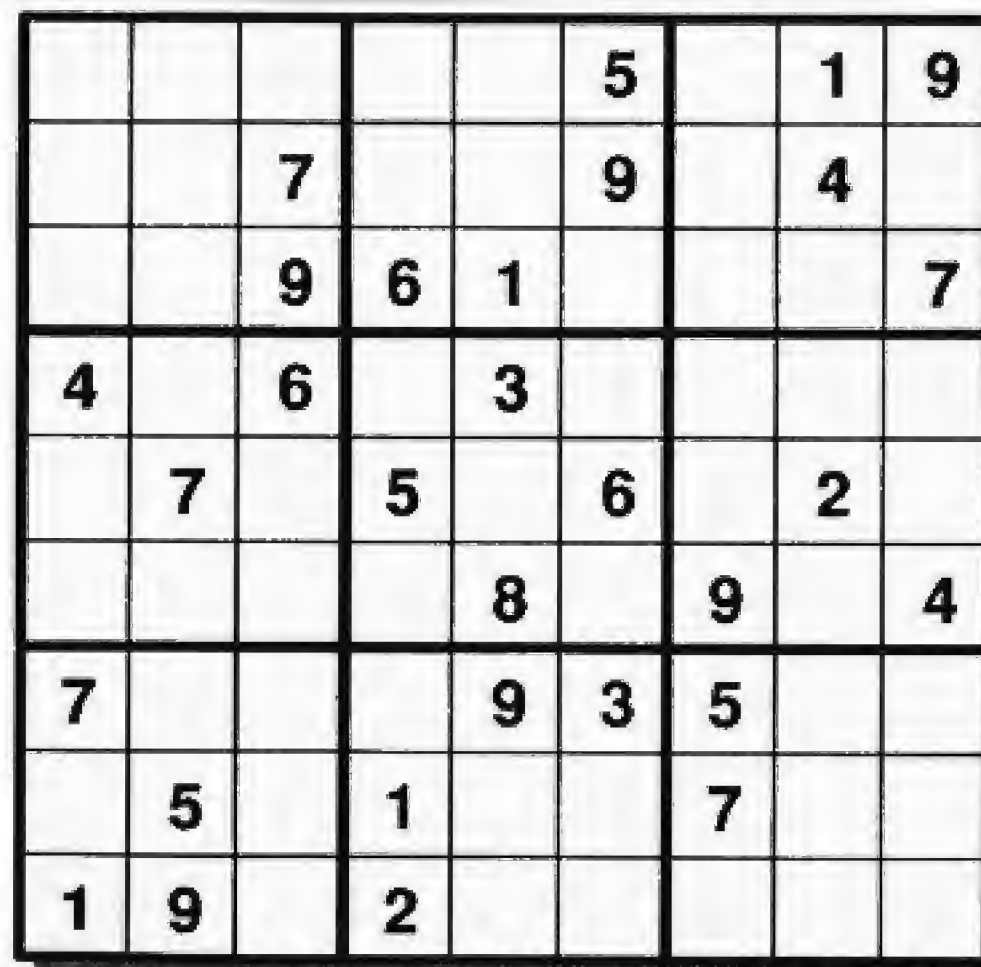
TAXI

C.V. TAS
587-1998, 587-5900
In Oranjestad:
Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604
582-5447
In San Nicolas
Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602
professional taxi services
Tel. 588-0035

Al Anon Meetings

Mondays 6-7pm
Sabana Liber 8 in Noord
Tel: 5673356 / 5838989

Sudoku



SOLUTION

9	6	7	2	9	2	8	6	1
2	6	4	8	9	1	7	5	3
1	8	9	6	5	7	2	9	4
7	9	8	1	8	2	9	6	2
6	2	8	9	7	9	1	2	6
9	2	1	2	6	8	9	8	7
2	9	6	7	1	9	6	2	9
8	7	9	6	2	2	2	1	9
6	1	6	9	2	8	6	7	9

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Discover authentic Aruban cuisine at The Queen's



Enjoy a true taste of Aruba without having to travel in the charming surroundings of The Queen's Restaurant in the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. Your host, Varella Innocencia has brought her very popular Oranjestad eatery to Palm Beach, showcasing authentic local cuisine only a short walk away from the major resorts.

The "hipper" and elegant new digs offer beautiful views, but Mama Luisa's magical touch in the kitchen is what

first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. She can be counted on to be conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations. As Varella says, "My mom loves and lives to cook. Even when she is not at work in the restaurant, she is experimenting with new dishes all day at home."

She is the Queen of the Kitchen."

Be sure to try Luisa's acclaimed "Carni Stoba di Ma-

machi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," or their fresh, whole snapper, with Mama Luisa's delectable salsa criollo. Don't miss the specialty of the house, a favorite local delicacy, Keshi Yena - "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It is satisfying and particularly memorable. Regional side dishes and some of Mama's secret recipe prepara-

Mama Luisa hard at work in the kitchen

tion of banana hasa and creamy potatoes provide a deliciously picturesque meal.

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to go, reasonably priced and easily accessible. A full menu can be seen on their website, <http://www.thequeensaruba.com/>.

queensaruba.com/.

Aside from an extensive regular menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season, and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't be shy about asking for something that may not be on the menu, as they are always eager to please.

The Queen's is open daily from 3:00 pm - 11:00 pm, offering both indoor and outdoor dining.

Buster's is back in Eagle Beach at Trop Casino



The home of the Beer Pong drinking game

-- Fans of Aruba's favorite sports bar are happy to hear that Buster's Garage has relocated to the restaurant/bar space inside Trop Casino. Now Eagle Beach resort guests have a great place for a bargain-priced breakfast or a bucket of beer while rooting for the team of their choice.

Buster's has that great, homey feel of settling in to enjoy a game with buddies, greatly due to the warmth and enthusiasm of owner Rusty. He takes pride in making pa-

trons feel welcome. "If somebody really needs to watch their home team on the field, we'll be happy to put it on for them," he confidently assured us. "We have 3 satellite dishes with separate packages to pick up every station imaginable. If there is a game going on out there somewhere, we'll find it."

With giant screens everywhere throughout the joint, there isn't a bad seat in the house. Aside from their all day menu of game-watching favorites, they also feature a hearty breakfast menu. The

"Grand Slam Platter" includes eggs any style, pancakes or waffles, bacon, juice, fresh made home fries with coffee or tea for only \$9. Lunch and dinner menus reflect the same moderate pricing with required sports bar standards such as chicken wings, club sandwiches, burgers and a heaping helping of nachos, averaging \$9. Pizza and main courses range from \$11 to \$15.

Aside from the games and the gambling, patrons can expect great entertainment three nights weekly with one of Aruba's most popular trios, "Threesome." There are also some wild times getting acquainted with Rusty's Beer Pong, the Drinking Game of Champions. Win or lose, players always end up with a smile on their face.

This family friendly place, with air hockey and video games for the kids, along with a special menu for young ones, is open 7 days a week from 7:30 AM until 1:00 AM for late night snacking and fun.



A whopping cheese nachos w/chicken dish

15 MINUTE
ENGLISH
LIFESTYLE &
NEWS SHOW

ON 15 ATV A LOCAL
NBC LICENSEE
WEEKNIGHTS 7:15 PM



Baseball: Brazilian trailblazer Gomes coming of age

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Yan Gomes says he's coming of age in Major League Baseball as the first Brazilian-born player in league history, taking on a regular role as catcher for the Cleveland Indians.

After a spell with the Toronto Blue Jays, he has begun to hold down a regular slot after joining Cleveland a year ago.

Having spent the run-up to Christmas in his homeland on the MLB Ambassador Tour, Gomes says he wants to make baseball more visible in the football-obsessed nation of Brazil, the host of next year's FIFA World Cup.

"When I arrived (in North America) I saw I was not just playing for myself but for a whole country. That motivated me," Gomes said in an interview published Friday by Brazilian sports daily Lance.

One of his duties as an MLB ambassador saw him help run a clinic for youngsters in Mogi das Cruzes, where Gomes started as a child.

The town in Sao Paulo state is also the hometown of Brazil and Barcelona football superstar Neymar.

Gomes, 26, is a major fan of the striker and the football club Santos, where Neymar started out before heading for the Nou Camp.

"I am a santista. I have been since I was a child," said Gomes, who wore number 68 with the Blue Jays but has



taken the number 10 jersey with the Indians.

"That's because of Neymar," who also wears the 'Pele' number for Brazil, Gomes said.

Gomes has become something of a trailblazer as compatriot Andre Rienzo this year joined the Chicago White Sox as a pitcher.

Gomes helped his country to qualify for this year's World Baseball Classic, where the samba stars under Barry Larkin were bested by Japan, Cuba and China.

Having started to make an impression with the Indians, Gomes elected not to play in the event itself and concentrate on his club progression.

MLB International is seeking to build on the momentum from Brazil's Classic appearance earlier this year, with veteran pitcher Latroy Hawkins serving as a pitching instructor at the MLB Brazil Elite Camp from Feb. 2-12 in Ibiuna.

There, players receive major league instruction from top

professional coaches and put their talents on display for major league scouts, including former major leaguers Steve Finley and John Mizerock.

In Toronto, Gomes said, the club wanted him to try a variety of positions whereas in Cleveland he says he has found his spot.

He says both Indians' executive vice-president Chris Antonetti and Manager Terry Francona had made him feel wanted.

"The respect they had for me motivated me," he said. "They spoke of me as the future catcher of the team and had a plan for me."

As an ambassador, Gomes said he hopes to persuade MLB to one day to play a match in Brazil, as has happened in recent months with NBA teams coming to the Latin American country.

"I want to help Brazilian baseball to grow and bring more Brazilians into the league," he said.



Taj Mahal

Taste of India

Authentic Indian Restaurant on the Island

Open Mon - Sat
Lunch : 12:00 - 3:00pm
Dinner : 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Havenstraat 36,
Behind Royal Plaza Mall,
Oranjestad, Tel : 5884494

BRIEFS:



ABU DHABI (AFP) - Rafael Nadal got his season underway with a 6-4, 6-4 loss to fellow Spaniard David Ferrer in the semi-finals of the Mubadala World Tennis Championship exhibition tournament in Abu Dhabi on Friday. It was the world number one's first match since losing in straight sets to Novak Djokovic in the final of the World Tour Finals in London on November 11.



ARLINGTON (AFP) - South Korean outfielder Choo Shin-Soo, among the most prized free agents this year, has signed a seven-year contract worth \$130 million with Major League Baseball's Texas Rangers, the club announced Friday. The 31-year-old Asian star signed the largest free agent deal in Rangers history, surpassed only by the team's 10-year deal worth \$252 million to Alex Rodriguez in December of 2000. Choo's average annual salary of \$18.5 million ranks eighth among all major league outfielders. He will be paid \$14 million for two years, \$21 million for the two years after that and \$20 million in each of the deal's last three years.

NFL: Back surgery ends Romo's season as Cowboys face Eagles

DALLAS (AFP) - Dallas Cowboys star quarterback Tony Romo will miss the team's biggest National Football League game of the season after undergoing back surgery Friday following a herniated disk. The Cowboys will play host to Philadelphia in Sunday's final game of the NFL regular season to decide the NFC North division champion and a playoff berth. The loser will miss the playoffs.

Cowboys coach Jason Garrett said Romo was crushed at missing the decisive showdown after leading the Cowboys to this point for the past four months. Romo, who suffered the injury last week in a victory over Washington, will need at least three months to recover, leaving backup Kyle Orton to lead the Cowboys into their biggest game of the year and in the playoffs if needed. Romo, 33, threw for 3,828 yards and 31 touchdowns and 10 interceptions in 15 games this season for Dallas, which signed Jon Kitna to serve as a backup to Orton on Sunday. Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said the team hoped Romo would respond to painkillers and be well enough to face the Eagles but it was apparent by Thursday that would not be the case. Romo guided the Cowboys on a nine-play, 87-yard drive for the winning touchdown last week against Washington and threw the winning touchdown pass to DeMarco Murray despite his ruptured disk. This will mark the third season in a row that the Cowboys will face a season finale in which the winner reaches the playoffs as division champion and the loser misses the playoffs. Dallas previously lost to Washington last year and the New York Giants in 2011.





Come, stay with us!

A well situated, quiet apartment complex consisting of 26 luxury apartments.

Please check us out at www.delreymaruba.com



1 and 2 bedroom apartments available. Moderately priced!



NEW LOCATION



TROP
CLUB & CASINO
Eagle Beach
Tel: 6604251

BUSTER'S

SPORTS BAR & GRILLE



If it is a sport we will show it!

Serving breakfast
daily
7:30 a.m.
Late night menu available
until 2 a.m.
weekends

NBA: Aldridge sparks Blazers over Clippers In OT

PORTLAND (AFP) - LaMarcus Aldridge scored 32 points and grabbed 10 points to spark Portland over the Los Angeles Clippers 116-112 in overtime Thursday, giving the Trail Blazers the NBA's best record.

French forward Nicolas Batum and guard Wesley Matthews each added 19 points, making key contributions in the fourth quarter and overtime as the Trail Blazers improved to 34-5, moving past Oklahoma City and Indiana, both 23-5, for the NBA's top mark.

It also marks Portland's best 29-game start to an NBA season since going 23-6 to open the 1990-91 campaign and edged to Trail Blazers ahead of Oklahoma City atop the Northwest division.

Blake Griffin scored 35 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, while Chris Paul con-

tributed 34 points and a game-high 16 assists for the Clippers, who fell to 20-11 but still lead the Pacific division.

Jamal Crawford added 21 points for the Clippers, while DeAndre Jordan had 19 rebounds for Los Angeles. Robin Lopez had 11 points and 15 rebounds for Portland.

The game was deadlocked at 101-101 after regulation time but Portland was sparked by Aldridge, who had a three-point play and a jumper to give the Trail Blazers a 106-105 lead as the closing drama unfolded.

Matt Barnes scored on a rebound to put the Clippers ahead but Matthews sank two free throws to put the hosts on

top 103-107.

A Griffin dunk put Los Angeles back in front 109-103 but Aldridge answered with a turnaround jumper over Griffin to give the Trail Blazers a 110-109 lead.

Batum was fouled by Barnes and sank two free throws to put Portland ahead 112-109 with 26.5 seconds remaining.

Griffin answered with a slam dunk but Damian Lillard of the Trail Blazers had two free throws to restore a three-point edge with 20 seconds to play.

Crawford went 1-for-2 from the free throw line to make it 114-112 but Matthews hit two free throws for the Trail Blaz-

ers and Paul missed the final shot from three-point range to seal the loss for the Clippers.

Portland improved to 7-1 in games decided by four points or fewer this season.

The Blazers led 76-73 entering the fourth quarter and stretched the margin to 11 points as the Clippers missed five of their first six shots in the period.

But Los Angeles rallied with 11 points in a row to equalize at 91-91 on Crawford's 3-pointer as Portland went scoreless for more than three minutes.

Paul made a jumper to put the Clippers ahead 97-96, their first lead since 8-7 just 5:38 into the game, and hit another

after Aldridge answered for Portland to keep the Clippers in front 99-98 with 40 seconds to play in regulation time.

After a block by Jordan, Paul sank a right corner shot just inside the three-point arc to give Los Angeles a 101-98 edge with 9.3 seconds remaining.

The Trail Blazers, the NBA's top three-point shooting squad, answered on a three-pointer from atop the key by Batum with 5.3 seconds to play to level the score at 101-101.

Paul missed a final jumper and the game headed for overtime. Each team had won both prior overtime games this season.

THE MORNING NEWS
Your source for local news in English

Ingrid Does
Manager

Rosalinda Maduro
Chandette Richardson
Editors

Marline v.d. Linden
Asst. to the editors

Rosalie Klein
Reporter/Photographer

Elly Erasmus
Sales Representatives

Local news provider for
visitaruba.com
aruba.com
caribseek.com

Int'l News provider:
Agence France
Presse (AFP)

Tel: 588-9517 / Fax: 588-9518
E-mail:
themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com
Website:
www.themorningnewsaruba.com



cOndominium
eagle beach

the perfect beach is Only the beginning...

selling now ...
20
exclusive condominiums



224 J.E. Irausquin Blvd.
oranjestad • aruba

297.287-5300

297.732-0000

sales@O-eaglebeacharuba.com
www.O-eaglebeacharuba.com

RENAISSANCE MALL



OPEN

THIS SUNDAY
DEC 29TH

10 am - 2 pm



Adolfo Dominguez - Agua Bendita - Aruba Aloe - Atlantis Submarines - Bobgmaxazria
Benetton - Bulgari - Calvin Klein - Carolina Herrera - Carpe Diem Restaurant - Cartier - Chopard
Cigar Emporium - Ci Gusta - Coach - CocoSol - Colombian Emeralds Int. - Crocs
Crystal Casino - Custo Barcelona - David Yurman - Diesel - Dufry - Entre Nous
Ermenegildo Zegna - Eva Boutique - Façonnable - Furla - Gandelman - Gucci - Guess
Guess Kids - Hilfiger Denim - Jewelers Warehouse - Kenneth Cole - Lacoste - La Martina
Louis Vuitton - Longchamp - Michael Kors - Monalisa - Pier Minimarket
Pretty Ballerinas - Ralph Lauren - Rolex - Starbucks - Sunspecs - TAG Heuer - Vilebrequin

Located at the Renaissance Resort
Oranjestad, City Center

R
RENAISSANCE®
MALL